

Serial No.: 10/073,404
Filed: February 11, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2826
Examiner: V. Mandala

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 are currently pending in this application. By virtue of this amendment claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced patent application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Fujihira et al.

The Examiner determined that Fujihira et al. disclose a power MOSFET device wherein the N⁺ doped well is spaced apart from and located above the P⁺ well.

In response, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 3 to require that the N⁺ well and the P⁺ well are separated by at least a portion of the P⁺ well. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification, for example at pages 8-9 and in Figures 2(a) through 2(j).

Applicant's invention is concerned with increasing the avalanche-breakdown current endurance of the power MOSFET device. Applicants have discovered that the current endurance of the device can be increased when the source contact region of the N⁺ well and that of the P⁺ well are not at the same level, i.e., are separated by at least a portion of the P⁺ well.

Fujihira et al. do not teach or fairly suggest a power MOSFET device wherein the N⁺ well and the P⁺ well are separated by at least a portion of the P⁺ well. As seen in Figure 1, the N⁺ well and the P⁺ well of Fujihira et al. are adjacent to each other and are not separated by at least a portion of the P⁺ well, as required by Applicant's amended

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claims. Therefore, Fujihira et al. do not describe or suggest all of the elements of Applicant's claimed invention.


Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 3 as being anticipated by Fujihira et al. is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the foregoing is a full and complete response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, an early and favorable reconsideration of the rejection of the claims is requested. Applicants believe that claims 1 and 3 are now in condition for allowance and an indication of allowability and an early Notice of Allowance of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

If Examiner feels that a telephonic interview would be helpful, he is requested to call the undersigned at (203) 575-2629.

Respectfully submitted,

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